What is Success?

I believe that how you treat people is a higher measure of success than the materialistic things you accumulate. In the end the things you have like the nice car, the big house, the high paying job, and the designer clothes all have no importance. When you look back on your life, it’s more important to look at what you have done and how you have made a difference, not what you own or where you have been.

Generosity, compassion, forgiveness, and love are all important to live a truly healthy and meaningful life. I believe generosity does not always need to be money or objects. It can come from anywhere. One can be generous with intelligence, wisdom, and kindness. When I was growing up, my mom always taught me how important it is to treat others with respect and kindness.  She always was very generous with donating money and being there for other people in times of need. I try to be like my mom by giving and by offering assistance with things as much as possible.  In the past my mother and I showed generosity by offering a place to stay for protection to someone we knew. With the help from my mom, I also learned how to forgive others. Everyone makes mistakes and by forgiving them you are offering compassion and mercy. This also allows one to have freedom and move on from the past. It helps one be at peace.

I believe how one treats people has a huge impact on ones own life. Being kind to others can make you feel euphoric. When you give back or do a good deed, you feel good about yourself. Knowing you have made a difference or have done good things for others allows you to realize how important you are. The materialistic things in life do not determine your character. What you do with what you have does. Even if you don’t have money to offer, you can still offer something. A helping hand, or a word of advise can go a long way. Listening to what others have to say shows them a sense of understanding and caring. By just being nice to someone can really make a difference because you never know what kind of day they are having.

 Throughout life the money you earn, the type of car you have, the size of your house may all seem important, but when you are at the last moments of your life, will they still matter? Will you think of all the things you have? Or, will you reflect on the impact you had on others and the way you treated your fellow citizens?